

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE**

RONALD REID,)
)
Plaintiff,) **Civil Action No: 20-CV-00050**
)
v.)
)
William Lee, Governor of the State)
of Tennessee, in his official capacity;)
)
Et al,)
)
Defendants.)

**DEFENDANT GOVERNOR LEE'S RESPONSE TO PLAINTIFF'S FIRST SET OF
INTERROGATORIES**

Pursuant to Rule 33 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Governor Bill Lee submits the following objections and responses to Plaintiff's First Interrogatories. Governor Lee objects to providing information protected by the attorney/client privilege, the deliberative process privilege, and the work product doctrine. Subject to these objections and without waiving them, Governor Lee responds as follows:

INTERROGATORIES

1. Please identify any evidence tending to show that SORA generally reduces the incidence of criminal offenses.

RESPONSE:

OBJECTIONS:

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1), the request exceeds the scope of discoverable information for the following reasons:

1. It seeks information that is not relevant to a claim or defense in an as-applied challenge.
2. The request is both vague and overly broad (“any evidence,” “tending to show,” “generally reduces”).
3. The request lacks any time constraints, and SORA has been amended multiple times.

Subject to and without waiving this objection, Governor Lee submits that he does not have the requested evidence.

2. Please identify any evidence tending to show any other societal benefits of SORA.

RESPONSE:

OBJECTIONS:

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1), the request exceeds the scope of discoverable information for the following reasons:

1. It seeks information that is not relevant to a claim or defense in an as-applied challenge.
2. The request is both vague and overly broad (“any evidence,” “tending to show,” “any other societal benefits”).
3. The request lacks any time constraints, and SORA has been amended multiple times.

Subject to and without waiving this objection, Governor Lee submits that he does not have the requested evidence.

3. Please identify any evidence tending to show that SORA generally increases the incidence of criminal offenses.

RESPONSE:

OBJECTIONS:

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1), the request exceeds the scope of discoverable information for the following reasons:

- [Case 3:20-cv-00050 Document 62-11 Filed 02/04/22 Page 2 of 8 PageID #: 692](#)
1. It seeks information that is not relevant to a claim or defense in an as-applied challenge.

2. The request is both vague and overly broad ("any evidence," "tending to show," "generally increases").
3. The request lacks any time constraints, and SORA has been amended multiple times.

Subject to and without waiving this objection, Governor Lee submits that he does not have the requested evidence.

4. Please identify any evidence tending to show any other societal harms from SORA

RESPONSE:

OBJECTIONS:

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1), the request exceeds the scope of discoverable information for the following reasons:

1. It seeks information that is not relevant to a claim or defense in an as-applied challenge.
2. The request is both vague and overly broad ("any evidence," "tending to show," "any other societal harms").
3. The request lacks any time constraints, and SORA has been amended multiple times.

Subject to and without waiving this objection, Governor Lee submits that he does not have the requested evidence.

5. Please identify any evidence the legislature considered in enacting any aspect of SORA.

RESPONSE:

OBJECTIONS:

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1), the request exceeds the scope of discoverable information for the following reasons:

1. It seeks information that is not relevant to a claim or defense in an as-applied challenge.
2. It seeks information that is not proportional to the needs of the case, considering the parties' resources. Governor Lee is not a member of the legislative branch, and consequently, the parties have relatively equal access to this information.
3. The request is both vague and overly broad ("any evidence," "considered," "any aspect").
4. The request lacks any time constraints, and SORA has been amended multiple times.

Subject to and without waiving this objection, Governor Lee submits that he does not have the requested evidence.

6. Please identify any evidence tending to show that failure to enforce SORA on Plaintiff

RESPONSE:

OBJECTIONS:

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1), the request exceeds the scope of discoverable information for the following reasons:

1. The request is both vague and overly broad (“any evidence,” “tending to show”).
2. The request requires speculation.

Subject to and without waiving this objection, Governor Lee submits that he does not have the requested evidence.

7. Please list the legislature’s rationales for each statutory enactment comprising SORA.

RESPONSE:

OBJECTIONS:

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1), the request exceeds the scope of discoverable information for the following reasons:

1. It seeks information that is not relevant to a claim or defense in an as-applied challenge.
2. It seeks information that is not proportional to the needs of the case, considering the parties’ resources. Governor Lee is not a member of the legislative branch, and consequently, the parties have relatively equal access to this information.
3. The request is both vague and overly broad (“any evidence,” “considered,” “any aspect”).
4. The request lacks any time constraints, and SORA has been amended multiple times.

Subject to and without waiving this objection, Governor Lee responds that Tenn. Code Ann. § 40-39-201(b) contains eight findings of the General Assembly that are relevant to SORA. Governor Lee submits he does not have other evidence.

8. Please identify all ways in which the legislature has narrowed any aspect of SORA in order to avoid infringing the Constitutional right against ex parte punishment.

RESPONSE:

OBJECTIONS:

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1), the request exceeds the scope of discoverable information for the following reasons:

1. It seeks information that is not relevant to a claim or defense in an as-applied challenge.
2. It seeks information that is not proportional to the needs of the case, considering the parties’ resources. Governor Lee is not a member of the legislative branch, and consequently, the parties have relatively equal access to this information.
3. The request is both vague and overly broad (all ways, narrowed any aspect).
4. The request lacks any time constraints, and SORA has been amended multiple times.

5. The request calls for a legal conclusions.

Subject to and without waiving this objection, Governor Lee submits that he does not have the requested evidence.

9. Please list all justifications relied on by Defendants for enforcing SORA on Plaintiff notwithstanding Plaintiff's Constitutional right against *ex post facto* punishment.

RESPONSE:

OBJECTIONS:

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1), the request exceeds the scope of discoverable information for the following reasons:

1. It seeks information that is not relevant to a claim or defense in an as-applied challenge.
2. Governor Lee does not enforce SORA on Plaintiff.
3. The request is both vague and overly broad ("all justifications").
4. The request lacks any time constraints, and SORA has been amended multiple times.
5. The request calls for a legal conclusion.

Subject to and without waiving this objection, Governor Lee submits that Tenn. Code Ann. § 40-39-207(g)(2)(B) requires Plaintiff to be on the sexual offender registry for life. Governor Lee submits that he does not have other requested evidence.

VERIFICATION

STATE OF TENNESSEE _____)

COUNTY OF Davidson)

I, **Bill Lee**, being duly sworn upon his oath, state:

I have read the foregoing interrogatories and provided the foregoing answers to them. I certify that the foregoing answers are true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.


Bill Lee
Governor, State of Tennessee

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

18 day of January, 2021.

Mary Elizabeth Thomas
NOTARY PUBLIC

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: 9/01/2022



REQUESTS FOR PRODUCTION

1. Please produce a copy of any evidence listed in response to Interrogatory No. 1.

RESPONSE:

Defendant has no responsive documents.

2. Please produce a copy of any evidence listed in response to Interrogatory No. 2.

RESPONSE:

Defendant has no responsive documents.

3. Please produce a copy of any evidence listed in response to Interrogatory No. 3.

RESPONSE:

Defendant has no responsive documents.

4. Please produce a copy of any evidence listed in response to Interrogatory No. 4.

RESPONSE:

Defendant has no responsive documents.

5. Please produce a copy of any evidence listed in response to Interrogatory No. 5.

RESPONSE:

Defendant has no responsive documents.

6. Please produce a copy of any evidence listed in response to Interrogatory No. 6.

RESPONSE:

Defendant has no responsive documents.

7. Please produce a copy of Plaintiff's TBI Sex Offender Registry file.

RESPONSE:

Defendant has no responsive documents.

8. Please produce a copy of any TDOC files relating to Plaintiff.

RESPONSE:

Defendant has no responsive documents.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorney General and Reporter

s/ Rob Mitchell

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s/ Miranda Jones

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served via email by agreement to:

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On this the 12th day of January, 2021.